



Corres. and Mail  
**BOX AF**

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2600

AF 61  
2651

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**RECEIVED**

First Named  
Inventor : Daniel J. Coonen  
  
Appln. No.: 09/977,098  
  
Filed : October 12, 2001  
  
For : METHOD AND APPARATUS  
PROVIDING VARIABLE SPIN PAD  
LENGTHS  
  
Docket No.: S01.12-0821

JUL 26 2004

Technology Center 2600

Group Art Unit: 2651

Examiner: D. Negron

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING SENT  
BY U.S. MAIL, FIRST CLASS, TO THE COMMISSIONER  
FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA  
22313-1450, THIS

20<sup>th</sup> DAY OF July, 20<sup>04</sup>  
*Theresa May*  
PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed on  
May 20, 2004 in which claims 1-4 and 6-22 were rejected and claim  
5 was objected to. Please amend the above-identified application  
as follows.